

GABRIEL RICHARD  
122 GIRARD BLVD SE  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87106-22

# CitizenLetter

*An urgent message from a concerned citizen*

January 26, 1996

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Commissioner Rachelle Chong  
FCC  
1919 M St. NW  
Room 844  
Washington, DC 20554

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FCC MAIL ROOM

Dear Commissioner Rachelle Chong,

As someone who cares about the future of our children, I am writing to urge you to strengthen the guidelines for the Children's Television Act (CTA), currently being considered under MM Docket No. 93-48.

I am concerned that in the absence of tougher standards, broadcasters will continue to fill the airwaves with rubbish and skirt the intent of the Act by submitting shows such as "G.I. Joe" and "Super Mario Brothers" as educational and informative.

As you know, the CTA is a product of 20 years of hard work by parents, children's advocates and concerned citizens. Yet since its passage, we have all been frustrated and disappointed by the failure of broadcasters to reach the CTA's intended goal of significantly increasing the amount of children's educational programming.

You now have the opportunity to make that goal a reality.

Please vote for more substantive and meaningful implementation of the Children's Television Act. America's kids are counting on you.

Sincerely,

GABRIEL RICHARD

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSIO.  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

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The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman, FCC  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 814  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairperson:

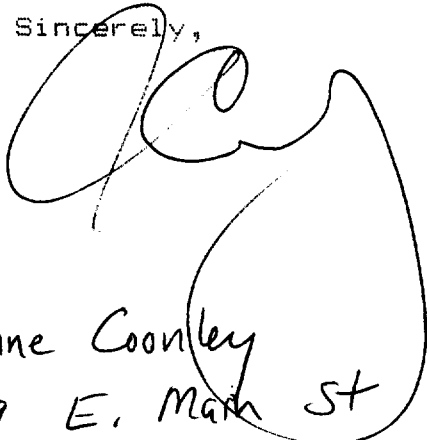
Your position as Chairperson of the Federal Communications Commission is of vital importance to the children of our nation. It is my sincere hope that as you work on the guidelines for the Children's Television Act you will have the best interest of our children foremost in your heart.

The influence television has on our children is incredible. Children believe what they hear on television before they believe their parents or teachers. Now television portrays countless acts of violence, the sensationalism of deviant behavior on talk shows, and adult sitcoms that do nothing to enrich the minds of children.

Please take a stand against this type of unhealthy programming. With your power you can create peaceful situations. You can portray the good in people and help educate our children to become successful adults. I want to encourage you to take a bold stand against programming that does not nurture the minds of our children.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Anne Coonley  
89 E. Main St  
Cableskill, NY 12043

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

From: Sue S. Thomas <z0111602@idptv.idbsu.edu>  
To: A16.A16(kidstv)  
Date: 1/27/96 1:51pm  
Subject: Loopholes

It is important to me as a parent and an educator that the loopholes that allow "fringe" programs claimed to be children's programs be closed. I will support any further legislation that is needed to eliminate the gray area that allows broadcaster to claim such programs are educational.

Sue Thomas  
Reading Specialist  
Koelsch Elementary School  
2015 N. Curtis Rd.  
Boise, ID 83706  
(208) 322-3812 z0111602@idptv.idbsu.edu

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From: DacostDS <DacostDS\_at\_ABD-US-PO2@ccip.perkin-elmer.com>  
To: A7.A7(sness,rchong)  
Date: 12/13/95 1:19pm  
Subject: Children's Television Act

Dear Commissioner:

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

As someone who cares a lot about the future of our children, I am writing to ask you to please vote for new rules to require television stations to provide a specific amount of educational programming for children each week.

I am very glad the Commission is considering these new rules to fully enforce the Children's Television Act. Please support a minimum of 3-5 hours a week of educational shows for kids.

It took parents groups over twenty years to pass the Children's Television Act, yet now, without these "quantitative" guidelines, we continue to be frustrated by the slow pace of compliance by broadcasters.

Broadcasters have at their disposal an invaluable resource for children. Yet the record shows that without stricter regulation, this positive potential for kids will remain unfulfilled. With your vote for substantive and meaningful implementation of the CTA, all our kids will benefit.

Sincerely,

Daniela da Costa  
100 Buckingham Drive #236  
Santa Clara, CA 95051

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**REBECCA K. LEET**

2501 North Quantico Street, Arlington VA 22207  
703/533-8967

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January 9, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal communications Commission  
1919 M Street ST, Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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**JAN 29 1996**

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Hundt:

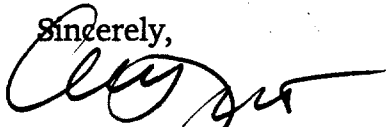
As Communications Committee Chair of the board of the Family Resource Coalition, I write to urge the FCC to strengthen its guidelines for implementing the Children's Television Act of 1990.

I encourage you and your fellow commissioners to "get serious" about what educational programming really means for children – to develop a clearer definition of what it is and a requirement that stations air at least 60 minutes per day of such shows during the 7 a.m.-10 p.m. time period. This time could be all one show or two 30-minute shows but should be in regularly scheduled time slots.

We are all well aware of the impact that television does have on children – and the impact it can have. We now provide Opray & Company, soap operas, violent cartoons and inappropriate situation comedies for our children...and we can be sure those have an impact. Let us at least weight the scale slightly in the other direction in hopes that we can use television as a positive force, too.

Please provide the leadership necessary to achieve these results within the FCC. This is very important for our children today, and our nation tomorrow.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Leet, Chair  
Communications Committee  
Board of Directors,  
Family Resource Coalition  
(headquarters: Chicago, Illinois)

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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Colorado Association For  
Family & Community Education

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December 26, 1995  
835 W 7th St  
Loveland CO 80537-5360

Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington DC 20554

Dear Sir and Committee Members:

I am writing this letter because I am concerned about television programs that affect our children. I have two teenage grandsons and I know that even though their parents attempt to control what they watch on television, and how long they can watch each day, these boys watch the "forbidden" programs everytime they get a chance!

I feel that the most important aspects of the Children's Television Act concerns what different stations regard as "educational" -- there needs to be a more specific definition of what is educational versus just information that doesn't relate to anything.

I also feel that it is very important that television stations identify the programs as informational or educational for children. This needs to be done in ALL TV guides so parents can read what they would prefer<sup>for</sup> their children before it comes on the screen. Just announcing it at the beginning of a program does no good because who doesn't run to the refrigerator during commercials and thereby miss the statement concerning its educational content?

And -- I am writing once again to see if there is any way we can also "clean up" some of the commercials! They are often filled with sex and violence -- not the best way to sell a product for margarine, for instance!

Thanks for your concern.

Sincerely,

Hazel Leininger,  
Larimer County, Colorado, FCE President  
Also: Colorado FCE Treasurer and Editor  
Country Women's Council Editor



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